



DON'T THROW IT AWAY: Compost Every Day!



There's no one right way to compost. You can try one of these commercial compost approaches or make your own!



Rotary Tumbler



Closed Bin



Open Bin

IT'S EASY!

COMPOSTING – along with saving energy, conserving water, and reducing fossil fuel use – is one of the most earth-friendly things you can do. It's an excellent material to use to enrich houseplant and garden soil, and a good way to recycle kitchen wastes and reduce garbage sent to landfills.

HERE'S ALL YOU NEED

BROWNS: Provide carbon.

Dead leaves, branches, twigs, paper rolls, clean paper

GREENS: Provide nitrogen.

Grass clippings, vegetable waste, fruit scraps, coffee grounds

WATER: Provides moisture to get things going!



DO NOT INCLUDE THESE ITEMS:

Dairy products, fats, meats, bones, pet waste, yard clippings or waste that has been treated with pesticides, black walnut leaves or twigs

BUILD YOUR OWN COMPOST PILE:

- 1) Select a dry, shady spot near a water source for your compost pile or bin.
- 2) Add your brown and green materials as you collect them, making sure larger pieces are chopped or shredded.
- 3) Moisten dry materials as they are added.
- 4) Ideally, your compost pile should have an equal amount of carbon and nitrogen (browns to greens) and alternate layers of organic materials of different-size particles.
- 5) Once your compost pile is established, mix grass clippings and green waste into the pile and bury fruit and vegetable waste under 10 inches of compost material.

When the material at the bottom is dark and rich in color, your compost is ready to use!

Composting facts:

- Yard waste and food scraps make up 20 to 30% of garbage!
- Landfills are filling up, no longer accepting waste and/or closing.
- Creating your own compost helps the environment and saves you money!
- By using your compost material you return nutrients to your garden that would have been lost - and it's free!
- Composting can extend the growing season of plants.
- Composting is one of the easiest ways to recycle and we can all do it!



For more information see:

<http://cwmi.css.cornell.edu/smallscalecomposting.htm>

www.compostinfo.com/Default.htm

<http://journeytoforever.org/compost.html> (English and Spanish)

www.compostingcouncil.org

www.epa.gov/composting

www.usbg.gov

www.sustainablesites.org



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<http://capitol.aoc.gov/powertosave/>
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